AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound ~~12 to 30~~ 20 nucleobases in length targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein B, wherein said compound (1) ~~specifically hybridizes~~ is fully complementary to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3 excluding the start codon region; (2) comprises ~~one or more~~ a plurality of nucleosides having modified sugar moieties and a plurality of nucleosides having phosphorothioate internucleoside linkages; and (3) demonstrates at least 70% reduction of apolipoprotein B mRNA levels when applied *in vitro* at a concentration of 150nM to HepG2 cells.

2-7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1 comprising at least one modified nucleobase.

9. (Previously presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

10. (Previously presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1 wherein the non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) A composition comprising the non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of ~~claims 1 or 11~~ claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

13. (Original) The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Withdrawn) A method of inhibiting the expression of apolipoprotein B in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of apolipoprotein B is inhibited.

16. (Withdrawn) A method of treating an animal having a disease or condition associated with apolipoprotein B comprising administering to said animal a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of the compound of claim 1 so that expression of apolipoprotein B is inhibited.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 wherein the condition involves abnormal lipid metabolism.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 wherein the condition involves abnormal cholesterol metabolism.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 wherein the condition is atherosclerosis.

20. (Previously presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein said compound inhibits the expression of the long form of apolipoprotein B, ApoB-100.

21-27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim ~~11~~ 1, wherein the compound is a sodium salt.

29. (Previously presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein the non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound targets a sequence within the range of nucleotides 1 to 103 or 157 to 14121 of SEQ ID NO: 3.

30. (Previously presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide compound targets a sequence within the range of nucleotides 1 to 79 or 182 to 14121 of SEQ ID NO: 3.

31-32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2' substituted sugar moiety or a bicyclic sugar moiety.

34. (Previously presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 33, wherein the 2' substituted sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

35. (Previously presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 33, wherein the bicyclic sugar moiety is a locked nucleic acid.

36. (Previously presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

37-39. (Canceled)